

# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

A publication of the Mars Program Office and the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

Issue: January 2010

**Next MEPAG meeting March 17-18, 2010, Monrovia, California.**

## Mars Science News

### *Mars Critical Data Products V Request for Proposals*

The Mars Program Office at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory has issued a Request for Proposals for the Mars Critical Data Products V (CDP-V) program. CDP-V covers two areas: MAVEN support and Future Landing Sites Analysis. The RFP will be available at <http://acquisition.jpl.nasa.gov/rfp/> or at <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/cdp/index.html> within a few days. Proposals are due March 1, 2010.

### *Mars Geochemistry Session at 2010 Goldschmidt Conference*

Dear Colleagues,

We are writing to bring your attention to a session on Mars geochemistry to be held at the 2010 Goldschmidt Conference in Knoxville, Tennessee, USA, on June 13-18, 2010. The title of the session is "**The New Mars: Geochemistry of a Neighbor Planet**" and is more fully described below. Lisa Pratt (Indiana) has agreed to present our keynote address. One purpose of this session is to share with the broader geochemical community the amazing advances that have been made recently in understanding the geochemistry of Mars, including but certainly not limited to low temperature geochemistry/mineralogy, biogeochemistry, surface processes and core-mantle-crust evolution. From this we hope to encourage even greater cross-disciplinary study our neighboring planet.

We encourage you to submit an abstract to this session and to share this email with other colleagues who also might be interested. The conference website is available at: <http://www.goldschmidt2010.org/index>. We hope to see you in Knoxville!

Best wishes,

Dave Des Marais (David.J.DesMarais@nasa.gov)

Scott McLennan (Scott.McLennan@sunysb.edu)

#### Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

Due	Project
1/15	<b>Planet Mars III Workshop</b> registration deadline
1/18	<b>EGU – General Assembly 2010</b> abstracts deadline
1/22	<b>Lunar Exploration Summer Intern Program</b> application deadline
1/28	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> International Planetary Dunes Workshop</b> Indication of Intent to attend deadline
2/19	<b>38<sup>th</sup> COSPAR Scientific Assembly</b> abstracts deadline
3/1	<b>Laboratory Planetary Sciences</b> abstracts deadline

## Mars Student Opportunities

The Mars Program Office has two new student travel opportunities for travel awards now posted. These are for the following meetings:

- The First International Conference on Mars Sedimentology and Stratigraphy, April 19–21, 2010, in El Paso, Texas.
- The Second International Planetary Dunes Workshop: Planetary Analogs – Integrating Models, Remote Sensing, and Field Data, May 18–21, 2010 in Alamosa, Colorado.

See the new opportunities at [http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/Student\\_Opportunities/index.html](http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/Student_Opportunities/index.html)

## Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
<i>First Quarter, 2010</i>		
	January 4-9, 2010 Seapal Suma, Kobe, JAPAN	<b>The CPS 6<sup>th</sup> International School of Planetary Sciences –</b> First Circular “Planetary Atmospheres – Sisters, relatives and ancestors of our own” <a href="http://www.cps-jp.org/~pschool/2010-01-04/">http://www.cps-jp.org/~pschool/2010-01-04/</a>
	January 10-15, 2010 Galveston, Texas, USA	<b>The Gordon Research Seminar (GRS) Origin of Life</b> Being held in conjunction with the Gordon Research Conference Origin of life (January 10-15, 2010) and will offer the unique opportunity for young researchers to present cutting edge research and discuss emerging ideas within the origin of life context. <a href="http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2010&amp;program=origin">http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2010&amp;program=origin</a> <a href="http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2010&amp;program=grs_origin">http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2010&amp;program=grs_origin</a>
	January 12-14, 2010 Pasadena, California, USA	<b>Introduction to SPICE Class</b> Contact Chuck Acton ( <a href="mailto:Charles.acton@jpl.nasa.gov">Charles.acton@jpl.nasa.gov</a> )
	January 13-15, 2010 Santiago, CHILE	<b>Astrobio 2010</b> <a href="http://www.astro.puc.cl/astrobio2010/HOME.html">http://www.astro.puc.cl/astrobio2010/HOME.html</a>
	January 21-22, 2010 Tempe, Arizona, USA	<b>Ground-Based Geophysics on the Moon</b> Contacts: Matthew Fouch, Andrew Dombard, Catherine Johnson at <a href="mailto:lunargeophys@asu.edu">lunargeophys@asu.edu</a> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lunargeo2010/lunargeo20101st.shtml">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lunargeo2010/lunargeo20101st.shtml</a>
	January 25-26, 2010 London, UK	<b>The Detection of Extra-Terrestrial Life and the Consequences for Science and Society</b> <a href="http://royalsociety.org/event.asp?id=8602&amp;month=1,2010">http://royalsociety.org/event.asp?id=8602&amp;month=1,2010</a>
	January 26, 2010 Tempe, Arizona, USA	<b>Mars Odyssey PSG</b> Arizona State University Contact Jeff Plaut ( <a href="mailto:Jeffrey.J.Plaut@jpl.nasa.gov">Jeffrey.J.Plaut@jpl.nasa.gov</a> )
	January 27-29, 2010 Boulder, Colorado, USA	<b>Lunar Dust, Plasma and Atmosphere: The Next Steps</b> A scientific workshop on “Lunar Dust, Plasma and Atmosphere: The Next Steps” will be held at the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics of the University of Colorado. <a href="http://lpa2010.colorado.edu/">http://lpa2010.colorado.edu/</a>
	February 18-20, 2010 Boulder, Colorado, USA	<b>Next-Generation Suborbital Researchers Conference</b> Announcement at <a href="http://lpi.usra.edu/meetings/nsrc2010">http://lpi.usra.edu/meetings/nsrc2010</a>
	February 22-24, 2010 Irvine, California, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Steering Group</b>

	February 27-28, 2010 The Woodlands, Texas, USA	<b>Brown-Vernadsky Microsymposium 51</b> Compositional Structure of the Lunar Crust: The New View from the Moon, Sponsored by Brown University, The Vernadsky Inst., Brown/MIT NLSI. Apollo and Luna exploration and sample return missions were targeted to specific areas of high interest. <a href="http://www.planetary.brown.edu/planetary/international/micro51.html">http://www.planetary.brown.edu/planetary/international/micro51.html</a>
	March 1-5, 2010 The Woodlands, Texas, USA	<b>Lunar and Planetary Science Conference #41</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/</a>
	March 14-17, 2010 Honolulu, Hawaii, USA	<b>ASCE Earth and Space 2010 Conference</b> There will be 15 symposia, including Exploration and Utilization of Extraterrestrial Bodies and NASA/ARO/ASCE Workshop on Granular Materials in Lunar and Martian Exploration. <a href="http://content.asce.org/conferences/earthspace2010/index.html">http://content.asce.org/conferences/earthspace2010/index.html</a>
	March 17-18, 2010 Monrovia, California, USA	<b>Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG #22)</b> <a href="http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meeting/mar-10/index.html">http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov/meeting/mar-10/index.html</a>
	March 28-April 2, 2010 Valley of Chamonix, FRANCE	<b>Planet Mars III Workshop – Les Houches</b> Contact Oliver Witasse at <a href="mailto:owitasse@rssd.esa.int">owitasse@rssd.esa.int</a> <a href="http://www.rssd.esa.int/index.php?project=MARSEXPRES&amp;page=planet_mars3">http://www.rssd.esa.int/index.php?project=MARSEXPRES&amp;page=planet_mars3</a> Registration deadline January 15, 2010
<i>Second Quarter, 2010</i>		
	April 12-14, 2010 Boulder, Colorado, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Satellites Panel</b>
	April 14-16, 2010 Boulder, Colorado, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Mars Panel</b>
	April 19-23, 2010 El Paso, Texas, USA	<b>First International Conference on Mars Sedimentology and Stratigraphy</b> A week-long conference including a 2-day field trip to look at the Mars analog sedimentary rocks that have filled the western part of the Permian Basin. <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/mars2010/index.shtml">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/mars2010/index.shtml</a>
	April 21-23, 2010 Boulder, Colorado, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Inner Planets Panel</b>
	April 26-28, 2010 Knoxville, Tennessee, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Primitive Bodies Panel</b>
	<b>Update</b> April 26-29, 2010 League City, Texas, USA	<b>Astrobiology Science Conference 2010</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/abscicon2010/abscicon20101st.shtml">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/abscicon2010/abscicon20101st.shtml</a>
	May 2-7, 2010 Vienna, AUSTRIA	<b>European Geosciences Union (EGU) – General Assembly 1010</b> Abstracts deadline January 18, 2010
	May 3-6, 2010 Monastir, TUNISIA	<b>Astronomical Data Analysis (ADA6)</b> <a href="http://www.aset.org.tn/conf/ADA6">http://www.aset.org.tn/conf/ADA6</a>
	May 4-7, 2010 Noordwijk, NETHERLANDS	<b>Herschel First Results Symposium (ESLAB 2010)</b> <a href="http://herschel.esac.esa.int/FirstResultsSymposium.shtml">http://herschel.esac.esa.int/FirstResultsSymposium.shtml</a>

	May 5-7, 2010 Boston, Massachusetts, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Giant Planets Panel</b> (or Woods Hole, MA)
	May 18-21, 2010 Alamosa, Colorado, USA	<b>Second International Planetary Dunes Workshop: Planetary Analogs – Integrating Models, Remote Sensing, and Field Data</b> Indication of Intent deadline January 28, 2010 <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2010">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2010</a>
	May 25-27, 2010 Washington, DC, USA	<b>Decadal Survey Steering Group</b>
	June 1–August 9, 2010 Houston, Texas, USA	<b>Lunar Exploration Summer Intern Program</b> Hosted by Lunar Planetary Institute (LPI) Contact Dr. David Kring at <a href="mailto:kring@lpi.usra.edu">kring@lpi.usra.edu</a> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/lunar_intern/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/lunar_intern/</a>
	June 12-13, 2010 Barcelona, SPAIN	<b>Planetary Protection Short Course</b> <a href="http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/">http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/</a>
	<b>Update</b> June 13-18, 2010 Knoxville, Tennessee, USA	<b>Goldschmidt Conference</b> <a href="http://www.goldschmidt2010.org/">http://www.goldschmidt2010.org/</a> Contact: Hap McSween at <a href="mailto:mcsween@utk.edu">mcsween@utk.edu</a> Abstracts submission deadline February 21, 2010 Online registration deadline May 18, 2010  <b>Session 01d: The New Mars: Geochemistry of a Neighbor Planet</b> Conveners: Dave Des Marais (NASA Ames) and Scott McLennan (Stony Brook)  Keynote: Lisa Pratt (Indiana) Mars is the one other planet in the solar system that apparently had a climate most similar to that of Earth. Mars differentiated very early into a core, mantle and crust; it preserved an ancient geological record that has no parallel on Earth; and it evolved mostly if not completely without plate tectonics. An early hydrological cycle sustained precipitation, streams and lakes. Later, volcanism, impacts, groundwater, and ice interacted at least locally. Liquid water participated in rock weathering reactions, such as iron and sulfur oxidation, that created distinctive weathering regimes and potentially sustained life. Methane in the atmosphere apparently requires a strong subsurface source(s). Conditions therefore could have supported life sometime in the past and perhaps could even sustain it today. This session will highlight recent geochemical investigations that are unveiling “the new Mars” and will lead ultimately to determining its geochemical evolution and whether life ever developed.
	June 14-16, 2010 Brittany, FRANCE	<b>Faraday Discussion 147: Chemistry of the Planets</b> Saint Jacut de la Mer. Contact: Ian Sims, <a href="mailto:ian.sims@univ-rennes1.fr">ian.sims@univ-rennes1.fr</a> <a href="http://www.rsc.org/ConferencesAndEvents/RSCConferences/FD147/index.asp">http://www.rsc.org/ConferencesAndEvents/RSCConferences/FD147/index.asp</a>
	June 14-18, 2010 Barcelona, SPAIN	<b>7<sup>th</sup> International Planetary Probe Workshop 2010 (IPPW-7)</b> <a href="http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/">http://www.planetaryprobe.eu/</a>

	June 8-12, 2010 Oslo, NORWAY	<b>International Polar Year Oslo Science Conference</b> <a href="http://www.ipy-osc.no/">http://www.ipy-osc.no/</a>
<i>Third Quarter, 2010</i>		
	July 2010	<b>Third MSL Landing Site Engineering Assessment Workshop</b>
	July 5-9, 2010 Hyderabad, INDIA	<b>Laboratory Planetary Sciences at AOGS 2010</b> Call for abstracts – deadline March 1, 2010 <a href="http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2010">http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2010</a>
	July 18–25, 2010 Bremen, GERMANY	<b>38th COSPAR Scientific Assembly</b> Abstract Deadline: February 19, 2010 Topics: - SC B: The Earth-Moon System, Planets, and Small Bodies of the Solar System - SC C: The Upper Atmospheres of the Earth and Planets Including Reference Atmospheres - SC D: Space Plasmas in the Solar System, Including Planetary Magnetospheres - SC F : Astrobiology and Space Science, Including Habitability on Mars : Past, Present & Future - Panel on Planetary Protection (PPP) Contact: <a href="mailto:cospar@cosparhq.cnes.fr">cospar@cosparhq.cnes.fr</a> <a href="http://www.cospar2010.org/">http://www.cospar2010.org/</a> or <a href="http://www.cospar-assembly.org">http://www.cospar-assembly.org</a>
	July 26-30, 2010 New York, New York, USA	<b>73rd Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Dr. Denton Ebel <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>
	July 26-30, 2010 Pasadena, California, USA	<b>2010 Sagan Summer Workshop</b> <a href="http://nexsci.caltech.edu/workshop/2010/index.shtml">http://nexsci.caltech.edu/workshop/2010/index.shtml</a>
	September 2010	<b>Fourth MSL Landing Site Community Workshop</b>
<i>Fourth Quarter, 2010</i>		
	October 4-8, 2010 Sapporo, JAPAN	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Alfvén Conference: Plasma Interaction with Non-Magnetized Planets/Moons and Its Influence on Planetary Evolution</b> <a href="http://www.ep.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/~alfven5/">http://www.ep.sci.hokudai.ac.jp/~alfven5/</a>
	October 3-8, 2010 Pasadena, California, USA	<b>42nd Annual Meeting of the DPS</b> <a href="http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html">http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html</a>
	October 31– November 3, 2010 Denver, Colorado, USA	<b>Geological Society of America National Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/">http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/</a>
	December 13–17, 2010 San Francisco, California, USA	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings">www.agu.org/meetings</a>
<i>2011</i>		
	March 2011	<b>Fifth MSL Landing Site Community Workshop</b>
	August 2011 Greenwich England, UNITED KINGDOM	<b>74th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Gretchen Benedix <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>

	October 2011 Nice, FRANCE	<b>43rd Annual Meeting of the DPS</b> <a href="http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html">http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html</a>
	October 9–12, 2011 Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA	<b>Geological Society of America National Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/">http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/</a>
	December 12–16, 2011 San Francisco, California, USA	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings">www.agu.org/meetings</a>
<i>2012</i>		
	August 2012 Cairns, Queensland AUSTRALIA	<b>75th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Trevor Ireland <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>
	August 2012 Brisbane, AUSTRALIA	<b>The 34<sup>th</sup> International Geological Congress</b> <a href="http://www.33iqc.org/">http://www.33iqc.org/</a>
<i>2013</i>		
	July 2013 Pasadena, California, USA	<b>8th International Conference on Mars</b> California Institute of Technology

Special holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/ meetings:

Good Friday	4/2/2010	4/22/2011	4/6/2012	3/29/2013	4/18/2014
Rosh Hashanah	9/9/2010	9/29/2011	9/17/2012	9/5/2013	9/25/2014
Yom Kippur	9/18/2010	10/8/2011	9/26/2012	9/14/2013	10/4/2014
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening).					
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/25/2010	11/24/2011	11/22/2012	11/28/2013	11/27/2014
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/11/2010	10/10/2011	10/8/2012	10/14/2013	10/13/2014

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Please send your Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's email to Joyce Pulliam, [Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov), 818-393-0444.

All announcements listed in this newsletter will be posted on the MEPAG website, available at <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>.